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HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY
P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

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| EXAMINER |
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SINGH, SATWANT K

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mkraft@hp.com
ipa.mail@hp.com



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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 10/635,437
Filing Date: August 07, 2003
Appellant(s): WIECHERS, ALEJANDRO

David R. Risley
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 22 April 2008 appealing from the Office action mailed 04 February 2008.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

The following are the related appeals, interferences, and judicial proceedings known to the examiner which may be related to, directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal:

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

10/635,453

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

6,407,820 Hansen et al. 6-2002

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claims 1-8, and 18-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hansen et al. (US 6,407,820).

Regarding Claim 1, Hansen et al discloses a method of performing automated packaging on a printed output in a commercial printing environment that includes a designer location (job preparation 106, including the job preparation stations 116 and the network servers 118, located in the print shop) (*It is being interpreted by the examiner that just because the job preparation stations are located in the print shop, does not mean that it is not a designer location. Any location/workstation that can create/modify and submit a print job over a network can be a designer location.*) and a print service provider location (print production stage 108, including the print servers 120 and the output devices 122. located in the print shop), said method comprising: creating at the designer location a digital file that represents an image to be printed (job preparation involves preparing the documents for printing according to the instructions in the ticket and creating a faithful and error free electronic reproduction) (col. 5, lines 18-29) (the job preparation workstations also provide the capability of the print shop to add value to the print production process by offering services to the customer, such as modifying the documents provided by the customer to add features that the customer could not or would not add himself) (col. 6, lines 51-67); receiving at the designer

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location from the print service provider location real time configuration information regarding a print production device at the print service provider location (facilitate and manage the flow of jobs) (col. 6, lines 16-50); generating at the designer location packaging instructions that describe how the printed output is to be packaged for shipment after printing, the packaging instructions being generated relative to the received configuration information (job preparation involves preparing the documents for printing according to the instructions in the ticket, the ticket contains all of the instructions for completing the production printing task) (col. 5, lines 10-29) (tickets are visually represented on the workstation 116 display) (col. 9, lines 23-30); creating at the designer location a high performance file that contains the digital file and the packaging instructions (ready for printer file format contains both the data to be printed along with printer control instructions that can be directly interpreted by the internal processing engine of a printer) (col. 5, lines 47-59); submitting the high performance file from the designer location to the print service provider location via an electronic network (network 112) (flow of jobs from the job preparation stations to the print servers or the production output devices) (col. 6, lines 26-33); and generating at the print service provider location a printed output of the digital file and packaging the printed output at the print service provider location in accordance with the packaging instructions contained within the high performance file (finished output is produced on the production output device) (col. 8, lines 7-20).

Regarding Claim 2, Hansen et al disclose a method of performing automated packaging, further comprising verifying at the print service provider location, that the

digital file will be produced as indicated by the high performance file and, if not, correcting the high performance file, including the packaging instructions, to ensure production substantially as designed (directing jobs to specific production output devices based on the attributes of the print job and how these attributes are satisfied by the print engine) (col. 7, lines 64-67, col. 8, lines 1-6).

Regarding Claim 3, Hansen et al disclose a method of performing automated packaging, wherein correcting the high performance file comprises reading the packaging instructions (visual representation) contained in the high performance file and preparing appropriate corresponding instructions for an actual packaging device to be used at the print service provider location (send prepared documents and any associated tickets to the production output device for final production) (col. 12, lines 62-67, col. 13, lines 1-10).

Regarding Claim 4, Hansen et al discloses a method of performing automated packaging, wherein correcting the high performance file comprises adding packaging instructions to the high performance file for an actual packaging device to be used at the print service provider location to supplement packaging instructions prepared at the designer location (production instructions are submitted to the print server or directly to the production output device) (col. 8, lines 63-67, col. 9, lines 1-10).

Regarding Claim 5, Hansen et al discloses a method of performing automated packaging, further comprising sending an indication of the operational status of the packaging device to a server computer at the print service provider location (visual feed back of each of the status) (col. 12, lines 62-67, col. 13, lines 1-10).

Regarding Claim 6, Hansen et al discloses a method of performing automated packaging, further comprising sending an indication of the job completion status of the packaging device to a server computer at the print service provider location (visual feed back of each of the status) (col. 12, lines 62-67, col. 13, lines 1-10).

Regarding Claim 7, Hansen et al discloses a method of performing automated packaging, wherein correcting the high performance file further comprises updating a job ticket also contained within the high performance file (manipulating job/print tickets) (col. 15, lines 37-43).

Regarding Claim 8, Hansen et al discloses a method of performing automated packaging, wherein generating packaging instructions comprises selecting an available packaging device based on the received configuration information (directing jobs to the specific production devices based on the attributes of the print job) (col. 7, lines 63-67, col. 8, lines 1-6).

Regarding Claim 18, Hansen et al disclose a system for performing automated packaging on a printed output, said system comprising: a designer location (job preparation 106, including the job preparation stations 116 and the network servers 118, located in the print shop) *(It is being interpreted by the examiner that just because the job preparation stations are located in the print shop, does not mean that it is not a designer location. Any location/workstation that can create/modify and submit a print job over a network can be a designer location.)* configured to: create a digital file that represents an image to be printed (job preparation involves preparing the documents for printing according to the instructions in the ticket and creating a faithful and error free

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electronic reproduction) (col. 5, lines 18-29) (the job preparation workstations also provide the capability of the print shop to add value to the print production process by offering services to the customer, such as modifying the documents provided by the customer to add features that the customer could not or would not add himself) (col. 6, lines 51-67), receive from a print service provider location real time configuration information regarding a print production device at the print service provider location (facilitate and manage the flow of jobs) (col. 6, lines 16-50), generate packaging instructions that describe how the printed output is to be packaged for shipment after printing, the packaging instructions being generated relative to the received configuration information (job preparation involves preparing the documents for printing according to the instructions in the ticket, the ticket contains all of the instructions for completing the production printing task) (col. 5, lines 10-29) (tickets are visually represented on the workstation 116 display) (col. 9, lines 23-30), create a high performance file that contains the digital file and the packaging instructions (ready for printer file format) (col. 5, lines 54-59), and submit the high performance file to the print service provider location via an electronic network (network 112) (flow of jobs from the job preparation stations to the print servers or the production output devices) (col. 6, lines 26-33); and a print service provider location (print production stage 108, including the print server 120 and the output devices 122, located in the print shop) configured to generate a printed output of the digital file and package the printed output at the print service provider location in accordance with the packaging instructions contained within

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the high performance file (finished output is produced on the production output device) (col. 8, lines 7-20).

Regarding Claim 19, Hansen et al disclose a system for performing automated packaging, wherein the print service provider location is further configured to verify that the digital file will be produced as indicated by the high performance file and, if not, correct the high performance file, including the packaging instructions, to ensure production substantially as designed (directing jobs to specific production output devices based on the attributes of the print job and how these attributes are satisfied by the print engine) (col. 7, lines 64-67, col. 8, lines 1-6).

Regarding Claim 20, Hansen et al disclose a system for performing automated packaging, wherein the print service provider location is configured to correct the high performance file by reading the packaging instructions (visual representation) contained in the high performance file and preparing appropriate corresponding instructions for an actual packaging device to be used at the print service provider location (send prepared documents and any associated tickets to the production output device for final production) (col. 12, lines 62-67, col. 13, lines 1-10).

Regarding Claim 21, Hansen et al disclose a system for performing automated packaging, wherein the print service provider location is configured to correct the high performance file by adding packaging instructions to the high performance file for an actual packaging device to be used at the print service provider location to supplement packaging instructions prepared at the designer location (production instructions are

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submitted to the print server or directly to the production output device) (col. 8, lines 63-67, col. 9, lines 1-10).

Regarding Claim 22, Hansen et al disclose a system for performing automated packaging, wherein the print service provider location is configured to correct the high performance file by updating a job ticket also contained within the high performance file (manipulating job/print tickets) (col. 15, lines 37-43).

Regarding Claim 23, Hansen et al disclose a system for performing automated packaging, wherein the designer location is configured to generate packaging instructions by selecting an available packaging device based on the received configuration information (directing jobs to the specific production devices based on the attributes of the print job) (col. 7, lines 63-67, col. 8, lines 1-6).

(10) Response to Argument

Appellant, on page 4, paragraph (a), argues that Hansen et al does not disclose a "designer location".

In response, Hansen et al in col. 6, lines 51-67, discloses ***“The job preparation workstations provide the capability of the print shop to add value to the print production processing by offering services to the customer, such as modifying the documents provided by the customer or adding features to the document.”*** It is being interpreted by the examiner that just because the job preparation stations are located in the print shop, does not mean that it is not a designer location. Any location/workstation that can create/modify and submit a print job over a network can be a designer location.

Appellant, on page 10, paragraph (b), argues that Hansen et al does not disclose creating a file "at a designer location".

In response, Hansen et al in col. 6, lines 51-67, discloses ***“The job preparation workstations provide the capability of the print shop to add value to the print production processing by offering services to the customer, such as modifying the documents provided by the customer or adding features to the document.”***

Since the original file is being modified at the job preparation workstations, a new file is being created. It is being interpreted by the examiner that just because the job preparation stations are located in the print shop, does not mean that it is not a designer location. Any location/workstation that can create/modify and submit a print job over a network can be a designer location.

Appellant, on page 11, paragraph (c), argues that Hansen et al does not disclose Receiving at a Designer Location "Real Time Configuration Information Regarding a Print Production Device".

In response, Hansen et al in col. 7, lines 63-67 and col. 8, lines 1-6, discloses ***"the print server engine performs the automated processes of the print server, including spooling and queuing jobs and job content, directing the jobs to specific production output devices, load balancing among the various production output devices, etc ."*** Additionally, Hansen et al in col. 7, lines 42-46, discloses that ***"the print server 120 is coupled to the job preparation stations 116"***. As recited above, it is being interpreted by the examiner that the job preparation stations are the designer locations. Just because the job preparation stations are located in the print shop, does not mean that it is not a designer location. Any location/workstation that can create/modify and submit a print job over a network can be a designer location. Additionally, Hansen et al. in col. 13, lines 4-10, discloses ***"The workflow management software, which provides visual feedback of the each of the output devices status to the user such as the current job queue"***. Since the user can view the current job queue of the various output devices, it is being interpreted by the examiner that this information is being exchanged in real time.

Appellant, on page 13, paragraph (d), argues that Hansen et al does not disclose Generating at a Designer Location "Packaging Instructions that Describe how the Printed Output is to be Packaged for Shipment".

In response, Hansen et al in col. 8, lines 7-20, discloses ***“various degrees of finishing, such as stapling or binding”*** of the final document. It is being interpreted that how the printed document is to be bound is the packaging instructions.

Additionally, Hansen et al in col. 5, lines 10-29, discloses ***“job preparation involves preparing the documents for printing according to the instructions in the ticket; the ticket contains all of the instructions for completing the production printing task”***. As recited above, it is being interpreted by examiner that the job preparation stations are the designer location and the instructions for completing the production printing task include the finishing tasks, including the binding instructions.

Appellant, on page 15, paragraph (e), argues that Hansen et al does not disclose Creating at a Designer Location a file that “Contains the Digital file and the Packaging Instructions”.

In response, Hansen et al in col. 8, lines 7-20, discloses ***“various degrees of finishing, such as stapling or binding”*** of the final document. It is being interpreted that how the printed document is to be bound is the packaging instructions.

Additionally, Hansen et al in col. 5, lines 10-29, discloses ***“job preparation involves preparing the documents for printing according to the instructions in the ticket; the ticket contains all of the instructions for completing the production printing task”***. As recited above, it is being interpreted by examiner that the job preparation stations are the designer location and the instructions for completing the production printing task include the finishing tasks, including the binding instructions.

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Appellant, on page 15, paragraph (f), argues that Hansen et al does not disclose "Packaging the Printed Output" According to "Packaging Instructions".

In response, Hansen et al in col. 8, lines 7-20, discloses "***various degrees of finishing, such as stapling or binding***" of the final document. It is being interpreted that how the printed document is to be bound is the packaging instructions.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

/Satwant Singh/

Satwant Singh

Conferees:

/Twyler L. Haskins/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/Edward L. Coles/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625